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shortly reinforced by six companies of the 23rd Battalion, later, Colonel Patton was ordered to detach these companies of the 22nd Virginia Infantry under Captain John K. Thompson. Colonel George S. Patton commanded Echol's Brigade. The 22nd Virginia went into action with five hundred and fifty strong, losing one hundred and thirteen in killed, wounded and missing. The 23rd Virginia Battalion, three hundred and fifty strong, lost sixty-one in killed, wounded and missing.

Three companies of the 22nd under Captain Thompson, one hundred and twenty-five strong, lost nine killed, thirty wounded, twelve missing. Battle ended at 4 P. M.

Report of Maj. Wm. Blessing, 23rd Virginia Battalion

" When the fighting became very severe I was ordered to march with six companies to the support of Captain Marshall, who, with one hundred and twenty-five dismounted cavalry, was being forced back on the left.

We were then forced back to a fence at the Bloody Angle. We were then reinforced by three companies of the 22nd Virginia Infantry, and one dismounted company of the 14th Virginia Cavalry.

Report of Colonel Thompson

Colonel Thompson, 19th Virginia Cavalry, says that he sent one hundred cavalry under command of Captain Marshall,

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the command consisting of the 19th and 20th Virginia Cavalry just then, Major Blessing commanding Dennings Battery, consisting of three hundred men, he having deployed his men on the right of the line formed by Captain Marshall.

Report of Col. W. Wiley, 20th Virginia Cavalry

Says that about 2 P. M. we were attacked by the 2nd and 3rd and 8th West Virginia Mounted Infantry.

Report of Col. Milton J. Ferguson

Colonel Ferguson, 16th Virginia Cavalry, says that he reported to General Echols on the 5th of November, who was then on the march, and arrived at the camp of Colonel Jackson at the eastern base of Droop Mountain, at 6 A. M. on the morning of the 6th. One squadron of the 14th Regiment was ordered to take position on the old road of Locust Creek. The efficient men of six companies were dismounted, four companies placed on the extreme left under command of Lieutenant Colonel Gibson and two companies in center. John D. Baxter, orderly sergeant of Company F, 10th West Virginia Infantry, was the first one to cross the rail fence at the bloody angle, and fell mortally wounded inside the enemy's lines.

This whole report has been taken from "Report of Droop Mountain Battlefield Commission" John D. Sutton, Chairman.

~~History~~ History

Battle of Groop Mountain

November 6, 1863

words
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Rella T Yeager ✓

Events and dates preceding battle
Troops engaged

Source:
Captain E. R. Hovey

Hella F. Yeager

Hella Yeager
From notes sent to her

U.S. 219
Young

BATTLE OF DROOP MOUNTAIN
November 6, 1863

By Capt. E. R. Howery

EVENTS AND DATES PRECEDING BATTLE

- Nov. 1, 1863--Gen. W. W. Averell left Beverly, West Virginia
- Nov. 3, 1863--Gen. A. N. Duffie left Charleston, West Virginia
- Nov. 5, 1863--Gen. John Echols occupied Droop Mountain

Number of troops engaged (Union)-----4700
 Number of troops (Confederate)-----3950
 Number Killed (Union)----- 130
 Number killed (Confederate)----- 400

Troops from West Virginia, Virginia, Ohio and Pennsylvania took part in the battle.

The Battle of Droop Mountain was fought November 6th, 1863 between Union Forces, commanded by Brig. Gen. William W. Averell, U. S. Army, and confederates troops under the command of Brig. Gen. John Echols, C. S. Army.

One of the reasons for the meeting of these two forces in West Virginia at this time was; The western part of Virginia was inhabited by people who were in favor of the Union, so June 20th, 1863 the old state of Virginia became divided into Virginia and West Virginia.

Confederate troops then were sent into the newly formed state so as to harass the Union troops in that vicinity, also to break down the morale of the people who had left the old state of Virginia. The Southern Troops were very successful. They occupied the Greenbrier Valley with Headquarters at Lewisburg. The road from Lewisburg via Union to the Virginia border was the only available road to Virginia and Tennessee and had the Union troops who were located in the vicinity of Elkins and near Charleston separated. Also winter was coming and the Confederate forces had to be drawn